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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  
(MBHB Case No. 99,294)

In the application of:

Brent Townshend

Serial No.: 09/311,617

Filed: May 13, 1999

For: Automated Language Assessment Using  
Speech Recognition Modeling

Examiner: Angela A. Armstrong

Group Art Unit: 2654

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Technology Center 2600

Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**TRANSMITTAL LETTER**

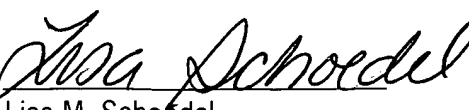
Dear Sir:

In regard to the above-identified patent application:

1. We are transmitting herewith the attached:
  - a) Response to Office Action; and
  - b) Return Receipt Postcard.
2. With respect to additional fees:
  - a) No additional fee is required.
  - b) Please charge any additional fees or credit overpayments to the Deposit Account No.13-2490. A duplicate copy of this transmittal letter is enclosed.
3. CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8 (FIRST CLASS MAIL): The undersigned hereby certifies that this Transmittal Letter and the document(s) as described in paragraph 1 hereinabove, are being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail, in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop Non-Fee Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 30, 2003.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 30, 2003

By:   
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Reg. No. 53,564

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RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION

Dear Sir:

Applicant responds to the Office Action dated October 4, 2003 as follows.